

England, beginning with the structure of the algae, classification, etc., illustrating with specimens, and closing with instructions to amateurs as to the collection and preservation of the sea weeds.

Excursions were made from Machias to the lakes and bogs in the vicinity, and to the towns of Marshfield, East Machias, Whitneyville, Roque Bluffs, and Machiasport, including Buck's Harbor and Point of Main. On the Point of Main was found *Sedum Rhodiola*, a station not before recorded. *Mertensia maritima* grew in great abundance and beauty on the Point of Main, also at Roque Bluffs. At this latter station, *Arenaria peploides* (a very local plant in Maine) was found. Here also grows *Rubus Chamaemorus* and *Kalmia glauca*. *Senecio Robbinsii*, *Potentilla palustris*, *Centaurea nigra*, *Scheuchzeria palustris*, *Matricaria inodora*, and *Matricaria discoidea* were also recorded, and a double form of the wild rose, *Rosa lucida*.

The ground was covered in patches with the beautiful *Euphrasia Americana*, again with *Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea*, while other spots were carpeted with *Empetrum nigrum*, and the road-sides were fairly brilliant with *Leontodon autumnalis* and its variety *pratensis*. *Alnus viridis* was the common alder in this region, *Picea alba* and *Abies balsamea* were noticed in full fruit at five or six feet, and *Larix Americana* was everywhere seen.—DORA H. MOULTON, Sec'y, 9 Hill St., Portland.

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FIELD MEETING OF THE VERMONT BOTANICAL CLUB.—The eighth annual field meeting of the Vermont Botanical Club occurred July 3 and 4. Most of the preceding meetings have been in the mountain regions of the interior of the state, so Lake Champlain was chosen for exploration this year. Burlington was the headquarters and the small excursion steamer, *Mariquita*, was chartered for the two days that the less accessible islands and shores might be visited at will. The Vermont Bird Club joined in the outing and about forty members of these organizations participated. It was the unanimous verdict that it was the most pleasurable and profitable field meeting to date and the hope was generally expressed that at least one of the two days next summer might be given to a similar cruise to other places about the lake.

On July 3 the weather was threatening in the morning so the shorter cruise was made to the rocky wooded shores of Grand Isle and the sand flats at the mouth of the Au Sable river. The sight of

greatest interest was *Leucophysalis grandiflora* in full bloom at the first mentioned place where it occurs in an abandoned quarry. It is a beautiful plant worthy of general cultivation as an ornamental species were it easily propagated. A comparison of experiences led to the conclusion that this may present some difficulties but it is to be undertaken by some of our members. It evidently behaves in nature as some of the orchids, appearing in great profusion in certain seasons and nearly disappearing in others.

On July 4 the weather was ideal and the full day and early evening were spent in a longer cruise from Burlington southward with landings at Thompson's Point, Gardiner's Island, Fort Cassin, and a cruise up the Otter Creek to Vergennes. The greatest interest of this day centered upon Gardiner's Island — made locally famous years ago by Mr. C. G. Pringle's explorations. It is one of the most interesting botanical areas in the State, consisting of an island of but few acres off the mouth of the Little Otter Creek. It is the home of fine specimens of *Quercus Muhlenbergii*, thickets of *Staphylea trifolia* and *Viburnum pubescens*, together with *Physostegia Virginiana* and other plants unusual in Vermont. Fortunately the island is uninhabited except perchance by an occasional fisherman and the natural flora has remained almost undisturbed by man. It was suggested that an organization be formed in connection with our club to secure by purchase or gift this and similar areas of peculiar botanical interest that their preservation in the natural state may be insured to succeeding generations of botanists. In many cases at least the expense would be slight in proportion to the gain to botanical science. — L. R. JONES, University of Vermont.

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